

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 OTTAWA 02524 172238Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SP-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10
NSAE-00 PA-02 ICA-20 /047 W
-----006472 180110Z /61

P 172230Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7435
INFO AMCONSUL CALGARY
AMCONSUL HALIFAX
AMCONSUL MONTREAL
AMCONSUL QUEBEC
AMCONSUL TORONTO
AMCONSUL VANCOUVER
AMCONSUL WINNIPEG

UNCLAS OTTAWA 02524

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SOPN, CA
SUBJECT: PRESS GUIDANCE ON MACLEAN'S ARTICLE ABOUT
AMERICAN POLICY ON QUEBEC

1. IN ARTICLE ENTITLED "GOD BLESS AMERICA" IN MAY 15
EDITION OF MACLEAN'S, IT IS ASSERTED THAT:

"THE U.S. CONSUL-GENERAL IN QUEBEC CITY, FRANCIS
MCNAMARA, DISCREETLY CALLED ON INTERGOVERNMENTAL
AFFAIRS MINISTER CLAUDE MORIN TO WARN THAT PENTAGON
FOREHEADS WOULD FURROW AT THE THOUGHT OF A GAPING
HOLE OF NEUTRALITY BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE
SOVIET UNION. MORIN, WHOSE MAIN OPERATING PHILOSOPHY
IS PRAGMATISM, GRACEFULLY CAPITULATED. AN INDEPENDENT
QUEBEC, HE LATER PUBLICLY DECLARED, WOULD PARTICIPATE
IN NATO, AND HE ADDED: 'IT IS EVEN MORE EVIDENT THAT
WE CANNOT CREATE A VACUUM IN NORTH AMERICA BY WITH-
DRAWING FROM NORAD. WE ACCEPT OUR SHARE OF COLLECTIVE
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SECURITY RESPONSIBILITIES."

2. WE HAVE DECIDED THAT, IF ASKED, WE SHOULD MAKE THE
FOLLOWING COMMENT ABOUT THIS PART OF THE ARTICLE:

THE MAY 15TH EDITION OF MACLEAN MAGAZINE CARRIES AN
ARTICLE WHICH STATES THAT THE US CONSUL GENERAL IN

QUEBEC CITY TOOK THE INITIATIVE TO RAISE WITH AN
OFFICIAL OF THE QUEBEC GOVERNMENT THE QUESTION OF
QUEBEC'S POSTURE, REGARDING THE DEFENSE OF NORTH
AMERICA, IN THE HYPOTHETICAL CIRCUMSTANCE OF QUEBEC
INDEPENDENCE.

THE EMBASSY WISHES TO STATE THAT THIS ALLEGATION IS
NOT TRUE.

3. FULL TEXT OF ARTICLE IS BEING POUCHED TO EUR/CAN.
ENDERS

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PROVINCE, SOVEREIGNTY, INSTRUCTIONS, ALLEGATIONS, THE PRESS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978OTTAWA02524
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780208-0863
Format: TEL
From: OTTAWA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780549/aaaabppl.tel
Line Count: 73
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 24f0b39b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2663778
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESS GUIDANCE ON MACLEAN'S ARTICLE ABOUT AMERICAN POLICY ON QUEBEC
TAGS: SOPN, PGOV, CA, US, (MCNAMARA, FRANCIS)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/24f0b39b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014